

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Bolin, Fech, Flowers, Franti, Konecky, LaCost, Lindquist, McCollough, Prochaska-Cue, Rapkin, Shea, Stock

Absent: Schubert

Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2010

Location: Faculty Senate Office, 420 University Terrace

Note: These are not verbatim minutes. They are a summary of the discussions at the Executive Committee meeting as corrected by those participating.

1.0 Call to Order

Fech called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

2.0 John Parish, University Bookstore

Parish stated that he wanted to provide the faculty with information on where the campus is in regards to textbooks. He noted that this is the time of year when the bookstore is most interested in getting book orders so books can be bought back from students.

Parish reported that last year at this time only 513 book orders were received, but this year 903 books have been received. He noted that the deadline date for receiving textbook orders for the fall semester is April 14.

Parish stated that getting early textbook orders this year represents an almost \$300,000 savings for students through the availability of used books. He reported that over \$2 million was paid out to students for books last year. He noted that the amount of used books on the market is limited and the sooner the bookstore knows which books will be used, the quicker it can obtain used books for students.

Parish noted that during his November meeting with the Executive Committee there was discussion about textbook rentals. He reported that Follett Bookstores has now rolled out a text renting program which he hopes will be in place at UNL for the fall semester. He noted that Nebraska Bookstore has already started a textbook rental program. He stated that it is more difficult for the university bookstore to start the program because there are over 800 contracts with different publishers that must be carefully examined to ensure that the textbook rental program does not violate any contracts.

Parish stated that seven Follett stores participated in a pilot program last year for textbook rentals. He noted that 16% of UNL textbooks would qualify for textbook rental rates. He reported that titles are nationally chosen by Follett and the books that qualify do not usually require lengthy book adoptions. He pointed out that Follett assumes the risk which is why the company, not the individual bookstores, decides which books qualify

for the rental program. He stated that he believes the students will appreciate the rental program and that it will be helpful with cash flow for students in the beginning of the semester. He stated that he thinks it will be a positive program that is well received by students, although the program has not been finalized yet.

Parish stated that many changes are happening with university bookstores because of the Higher Education Opportunity Act. He noted that this Act is designed to reform the higher education system to make it more affordable and accessible. He reported that there is specific language in the act that requires publishers to provide faculty members with information on a book such as price, copyright date history, substantial content revisions, and alternate formats and pricing for these alternate formats. He pointed out that the Act makes publishers serve their entities better.

Parish stated that the Act is also requiring institutions to provide textbook prices and ISBN's to students when they register for courses. He noted that campuses will have to build a computer link that will provide this information.

Parish stated that publishers should reference the cost of the bookstore's texts when they are speaking with faculty members. He pointed out that there is a difference between the bookstore cost and the cost to the student and faculty members should ask this question when publishers are quoting prices. He noted that Follett's prices are 2% lower than the national standard.

McCollough asked where the bookstore's profit goes, to the bookstore or to the university. Parish stated that the profit goes to Follett but the company leases the bookstore and pays the university a commission. He noted that \$1.6 million goes back to the university each year.

Fech thanked Parish for coming to speak to the Committee. Parish stated that he would be happy to attend departmental meetings to answer any questions faculty members may have about the bookstore.

3.0 Announcements

3.1 University of Nebraska Federal Credit Union Newsletter

Fech reported that the latest newsletter from the credit union contains an article written by Prochaska-Cue about the Student Money Center and how it can help students through peer counseling.

3.2 Deans and Directors Meeting

Fech reported that the Deans and Directors meeting has been postponed until next week.

4.0 Minutes of 3/31/10

There were no problems with the minutes.

5.0 Unfinished Business

No unfinished business was discussed.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Letter of Appreciation for Service Work on Senate

Fech stated that Griffin and he discussed sending a letter of appreciation to Senators whose term has ended and copying the letter to the department chair/head and the dean. He noted that this could help encourage more people to serve on the Senate and other committees. He stated that he and Griffin will draft a letter and send it to the Committee for input.

6.2 Review of Senate Meeting

Fech noted that the Computational Services and Facilities Committee report contained two resolutions, but these resolutions were not presented by the chair of the committee in the traditional manner. He asked if the resolutions can be introduced after the meeting. The Committee suggested that Fech contact Professor Harbison, who has recently served as Parliamentarian, for his input on how these resolutions should be handled.

Fech stated that the revisions to the Procedures to be Invoked for Significant Budget Reallocations and Reductions needs to go to ASUN and the Academic Planning Committee for approval. He pointed out that the Chancellor will make the final decision before the document goes to the Board of Regents for approval.

Fech stated that he will send a copy of the approved Research Misconduct Policy to VC Paul and the Chancellor. Shea pointed out that Associate VC Espy and Sara Conrad, Research Compliance Services Manager, will more than likely verify that the footnotes in the document are correct since Emeritus Professor McShane felt that these needed to be changed.

Fech stated that the Chancellor will receive the policy and will need to present it to the Board of Regents for final approval

6.3 Training for Committee Members

LaCost asked if faculty members receive any training when they serve on committees, particularly the Academic Rights & Responsibilities Committee and Panel. McCollough stated that faculty members who have experience serving on special hearing committees of the ARRC assist faculty members with investigations. She noted that there is an outside lawyer who is very knowledgeable about ARRC proceedings and who assists in the process of an investigation.

Shea pointed out that if a chair of a special hearing committee has a question on a process they should consult with the chair of ARRC. He reported that current chairs of the ARRC often consult with the previous chair about proper procedures if there are any questions.

6.4 Academic Rights & Responsibilities Committee's Procedures

Lindquist pointed out that once the Research Misconduct Policy is approved by the Board of Regents, the chair of the ARRC will need to be contacted about revising the ARRC's procedures. He noted that the PC-B procedures will need to be removed and changes made in other procedures of the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Wednesday, April 14 at 3:00 pm. The meeting will be held in 201 Canfield Administration Building. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and David Rapkin, Secretary.